



The International Association of Lions Clubs DISTRICT 105D - JUNE 2009



Ordinary People
Amazing Things

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Well we have arrived, this will be our last Newsletter before handing over to DG(E) Lion Judith on the 19th July with just two club visits and seven more charters to go.

It has been a most rewarding experience for Lion Ann and I, the friendship that we have enjoyed wherever we have been within the District and new friends that we have made during this year has been overwhelming and we would

like to thank you all so much for the very kind reception and hospitality offered to us. We have certainly been able to experience the true meaning of Lionism and all of the tremendous good work that you are doing.



The year got off to a fantastic start with the International Convention in Bangkok, a memory that will remain forever,

As with everything in life, yes there have been problems to overcome, but

these have been by far outweighed by the wonderful achievements and success stories within the District, it couldn't have been a more difficult year, with the credit crunch, but we did not allow this to deter us, a record number of disadvantage people taken to Paultons Park. At the time of writing this membership is showing on the plus side, which has been helped on nicely by the efforts of the Southampton club to strengthen their membership, I was asked to badge up eight good quality members in May with more to come.

The Youth Camp, whilst it is acknowledged that a great deal of the work was planned in the previous year as with any long term project, but credit must also go to all involved when the International Youth Camp in District 105D hosted 40 young adults in August, from many locations around the world and provided them with an



experience and Friendship of a lifetime and what a great day we had with Mary Fagan, the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire,, then there was the Sight Savers presentation when I was given the honour of introducing one of the Groups of Lions and guests to our Patron, HRH The Countess of Wessex, what a lovely and genuine lady she is

and a great Patron for the Lions Clubs of the British Isles.

Other things that come to mind, The District Service of

Re Dedication at Warminster with the participation of the youth choirs from the local schools, great! The Presidents reception at Lymington, a lovely atmosphere enjoyed by many, Christmas activities, Wincanton Club Branch Dinner, the wedding of Steve and Ellie and their subsequent move to Waterlooville. Club visits, all with the same aim, but done in so many different ways, I remember getting fined for wearing Ann's name badge when I had forgotten my own, bumpy rides in a 19 seater plane to Guernsey, which Ann has not forgiven me for, I thought we would try flying Blue Island for a change, we hit the runway twice and that was on take off !! Mind you the wind was very strong and gusty.

Fantastic Charter Anniversary's, Dicky Bow falls apart, getting caught up in traffic and arriving to - you have 15 minutes to get ready, on one occasion en-route, it was thank heaven for Asda toilets where Ann went in wearing Jeans and came out in a long dress - they are still looking for the lady in Jeans! Are you really wearing that when I arrived at one charter in Jeans and said I had forgotten my Dinner Jacket, no not really.

The District Convention, what a fantastic occasion this was and so well attended, the whole weekend was really something not to be forgotten, Ann over the moon, kisses from Alan Titchmarsh, seeing the faces in tears of laughter when he spoke at the dinner.

The new Guernsey Leo Club chartered on 30th May and we will be visiting on 24th



June to badge them up, we hope! if Oak Brook send the kits in time that is.

And so the memorable thoughts go on, so many, many more one could mention.

Thank you for all that you have done for us this year, we have met so many lovely people, you really are a fantastic bunch of Lions and Partners, I suppose you could say just being 105D!! **Thank you all so much.**

New Members

We welcome the following members who have recently joined the family of Lions.

Susan Morris (Fareham), John Pettifor (Fleet), Alexander James Atwell (Southampton), Anthony Black (Southampton), Doreen Black (Southampton). John Coates (Southampton), Eric Hammerton (Southampton), Paul Charles Miller (Southampton), Jonathan Colin Rickman (Southampton), Kenneth Williams (Southampton), Carl Albert Litherland (Wareham), Keith Shephard (Warminster), Eleanor Grace Tancock (Waterlooville), Rosemary Tizard (Newport), Roger Brown (Sherborne), Vich Machin (Woolmer Forest), Janet Sharp (Hook & Odiham) Margaret McAllister (Hook & Odiham)

Membership and Activity Reports

Club Secretaries, please submit your membership reports in good time this month, do not leave it until the last minute and then say you could not log on to Oak Brook, your return for June, will determine how many members your club will be invoiced for the next six months dues in July, and don't forget, with the present exchange rates, the International dues will be quite a bit higher, so please try not to upset your club treasurer, get the reports in on time. Also for those choosing to submit annual activity reports to Oak Brook, instead of monthly, this is the end of the Lions year and reports should be filed this month.

We had one club in May say they could not log on to the Oak Brook site, when the time was checked, they were trying to log in at 12.00 when the site is closed for back up. Remember the Oak Brook WMMR computer closes down from 11.15am to 12.15pm GMT each day for back up and maintenance, don't try to submit your reports during this time.

Members passing to Higher Service.

We sadly report the following members have recently passed to higher service.

Lion Samantha Anne Stevens (Goring, Woodcote District), Lion Brian Wilson (Swanwick), Lion John Frederick Dixon (Wokingham).

May they rest in peace and be always in our thoughts.

District Handover

Don't forget the District Handover Sunday 19th July at the Barcelo Basingstoke Country Hotel, Scures Hill, Nateley Scures, Nr Hook, RG 27 9JS

Ordering supplies from Oak Brook.

In order to try and address some of the issues with the cost of carriage, Oak Brook have brought in some slight changes to the ordering service.

* The on-line catalogue website only courier option for shipping and charges based on this service will be shown on the order before you agree and submit it. Usually in the region of USD31.40

* Once sent, the order will be processed as shown. (In other words don't crib about the shipping cost and expect a refund).

* Orders should NOT be submitted through the on-line catalogue website if the club does not want courier shipment or to pay the charges for this service.

* Orders not wanting courier shipment should be sent to Oak Brook by Phone, Fax, Mail or basic plain text Email and specify NO courier shipment.

* As long as the order meets the specification of postal shipment IE size and weight it can then be sent through the International Postal System, this will be ideal for Pins and small awards etc., which will then bear a much smaller shipping cost than the courier service.

* Orders that are too heavy or too large etc., will be shipped by courier and the courier service charges will apply.

DG's Diary Please add the following to the June dates published in the May Newsletter.

23rd Totton & Eling Club Visit

24th Guernsey Leo Club OV



Finally, grateful thanks to you all for making this such a special year for Lion Ann and Myself, it really has been a wonderful experience to serve this great District of 105D. We wish Lion Judith and John well for the year ahead and will support you all the way. Thank you once again,

DG Roger & Lion Ann

Lions Club of Christchurch Green Team Helps Christchurch's Environment



The Lions Club of Christchurch recently took part in a "Big Tidy-up Operation" organized by the Deputy Mayor of Christchurch, Cllr. Josephine Spencer, who headed the team. She was also assisted by local residents and Alan Griffiths,

Leader of the Council, came along, too, to give a helping hand to clear litter from the verges alongside Bure Lane and also in the wooded area bordered by Bure Lane & Bure Homage Lane in Mudeford. This area is frequented by local children as they play in the woods and along the banks of the Bure Lane stream.

According to Barrie Kenyon, President of the Lions Club of Christchurch, "This project improved the environment and our community at the same time. It exemplifies Lions Clubs International's ongoing commitment to provide a healthier and safer place to live, work and play". Lion Barbara Jeremiah PRO

WALK THE WIGHT – ISLE OF WIGHT LIONS MAKES A SPLASH!



The annual Walk the Wight event took place with over 12,000 walkers. The Lions clubs of the Isle of Wight played a major part in looking after the participants of the flat walk, Marshalling, looking after the

walkers by providing water, and just as importantly, getting the message of Lions International across to the thousands of walkers.

We were able to inform so many people of the vital role the Lions clubs play in the local communities of the Island and the world.

All the 5 Island Lions clubs have worked together in a joint effort, as part of their community service programmes to help local people. The Island Lions carry out many community service projects through out the year all over the island.

Many thousands of pounds are raised every year by the Island Lions to help, mainly local people, the young and old alike to have a better quality of life.

The walkers have never been clapped and congratulated at the finish line before and as many walkers reported, this is a first, and thanked the Island Lions Clubs for this. David Cheek from The Mountbatten Hospice added his thanks to the sterling effort provided by the Lions Clubs.

The proceeds from the walk will go to the Mountbatten Hospice, last year they received over £300,000.00 in one day and we hope this year it will be far more.

Lion Barrie Jehan

Watch out – Fleet Lions at the ‘Pond’ again



Despite the mayhem we have wreaked over the years, a lovely sunny Spring morning found us at Fleet Pond again, our local nature reserve. We had been commissioned to assemble and install two

new benches so everyone, including the less able-bodied, could enjoy magnificent views of Hampshire’s largest freshwater lake. So we dug holes, played with our new ‘meccano kits’ and laid down gravel to surround the benches and create a new access path. Lions Mike Collen, Graham Cooper and Graham Wakefield did the business, accompanied by two of our ex-Leos, Nikki and Richard. We also drafted in some of the conservation volunteers because it was a big job for us to complete on our own. We finished the job in a long morning and were very proud of what we’d achieved, in fact it all looked quite professional!



We had quite a lot of compliments from people passing by on what a great job the volunteers do at the Pond. So hopefully as people enjoy the view, they too will appreciate the work of all the volunteers, regular or just

occasional, like us Lions.

And finally, whilst we’re still on the ecological theme, Fleet Lions would like to invite all of you to join us in getting closer to nature. All the beers at our beer festival on 15 August will be named after animals! We hope you can join us. See our website www.fleetlions.org.uk/fundraising for details.

Jim Storey Fleet Lions



Lions Giant Chocolate Egg Race Photo (L-R) Lion President John Pearson and Lion Albert Whittle with eggs at Haskins

Once again, the Lions of Wimborne & Ferndown have enjoyed a very successful fund raising effort by organising charity draws for about 80 giant chocolate Easter Eggs. The proceeds this year were ear marked for an equal division between and the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance and the Poole Hospital Special Care Baby Unit two exceptionally worthwhile local causes. Once again, the Lions were given great support by many public houses, golf courses and golf driving ranges, Age Concern Day Centres, shops, large employers and garden centres including special facilities to sell at Haskins in the weekends up to Easter. The excellent result is a net return something like £3,300 to be divided between the two charities. Lion President John Pearson said, “This great result is a credit to the many businesses that have taken on the eggs but especially to the people of East Dorset who once again came up trumps despite the Credit Crunch. Since the event members of the club visited the Air Ambulance and handed over a cheque for £5000 on their new base. Lion Jim Storey

Senior Lions Institute

"The next Senior Lions Institute is to be held in Tampere, Finland from September 13th to September 16th - immediately before the next Europa Forum. The Institute is open to anyone who has served as Club President but not yet reached the position of 1st VDG. A successful candidate is responsible for travel costs to and from the venue but once there all accommodation and meals are paid for by LCI. Be prepared to work long hours - there will be little time for sightseeing unless it is before or after the Institute or late at night after dinner which is always a group dinner.

The application form and further details can be found now on the LCI website: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/leadership-development/leadership-development/senior-lions-leadership-institutes/index.php>

Please note that completed application forms **MUST** be signed by both the District Governor and 1st VDG. Do not send them to me or direct to LCI as they will be rejected without those signatures Mike Hendy - District Leadership Chairman"

Paultons Parks Another Great Success



Photo of the Lion King (Simba) who was a photo attraction at Paultons Park for our Guests.

Lions clubs took a grand total of 1899 people to Paultons, we paid for 432 packed lunches, at the beginning of

the day it rained but after a while it stopped. Our guests enjoyed the attractions and new rides of Paultons Park. The packed lunches went down well. I have had Thank you letters for our generosity & they said THANK YOU for a wonderful day. Lynda Wilson Smith



Photo shows DG Roger Huntley, VDG Judith Goodchild, PDG Godwin Micallef, Lion Albert Whittle, Lion Brenda Gait helping Godwin blow out his surprise **65th** Birthday cake.

Thanks to Lion Chris Micallef for the great pics Editor

A Message from your Editor

Many thanks for your articles, but have had to hold some over to the next issue. Sorry again for the lateness due to problems beyond my control. Next issue will close on the 23rd August 2009.

Lion Peter Garlick



Spek-Tacular 122,400 pairs

Picture shows collections from Zone A clubs at Tesco's Dorchester.

Spek-Trek History

In the early years the specs, collected from Lions Clubs throughout the south, were taken to

Weymouth Lions who moved them on to the Missionary Optical Society who were based in Cornwall. The Society then graded and packed them before dispatch to Africa and Asia.

Later, the person who sorted the spectacles was no longer able to do so and we then (with the help of Fareham Lions) took all the specs to a storage site (largely made up of old shipping containers) near Eastleigh. The provider of the store then passed them on to the Society.

A few years back the owner of the Eastleigh store went out of business and we, very rapidly, had to find somewhere else for our, by then, 50,000 plus pairs of specs. Also, at this time the Missionary Optical Society was no longer in the business.

Chichester Lions had been running a nationwide collection using 'Parcelforce', for some time, and we contacted them. Brilliantly, they were able to help, although our specs added a lot to their steady annual flow. In the first year we took all our collection to various sites around Chichester. Thereafter, we have passed the specs on to Chichester Lions via Midhurst Lions, who help Chichester with storing and packing. Until a couple of years ago we held on to half the collection in Petersfield and passed these on over the following year as Midhurst's space became available. Today, having lost our store, we have to take the whole of a Spectrek run to Midhurst. Every year we pray that they do not run out of storage space.

So what happens to the specs after Midhurst? The Midhurst Lions have a regular sorting and packing session (weekly, I believe). They go through the specs discarding the junk, sunglasses, breakages etc. Where gold is present in the frames, they arrange for its extraction to raise money for the Southampton Hospital Eye Department. Midhurst also have a regular cases and sunglasses stall at the local community centre. The repacked specs are passed on to Chichester Lions.

Chichester Lions store the packages and twice a year make up a large transit van load and cross the channel to Le Havre. Here, with the assistance of Le Havre Lions, the specs are taken to a small charity. This body, run by a few nuns and manned by a number of disabled people, then grade the specs and prepare them for the last leg of their journey to sight projects in Africa and Asia.

Any money collected en-route, or donations received from other clubs, is donated to eye camps in Africa.

Spectrek is an exhausting day which is itself the culmination of a year's work by Lions Clubs all over central southern England. But when one looks at the outcome it is one of the most rewarding things we do. In these days of green issues the Lions spectacle collection project is more than recycling; it is reuse of a costly asset. We have now collected 2,080,300 pairs of specs

over the last 27 years; how much would they cost at today's prices? £50 million? £100 million? And, most important of all, the collection brings hope to many families in the developing world who have been blighted by loss of sight." Lion Lin Piatek.

Diva Dance Festival

Bournemouth will be holding a Diva Dance festival on Saturday 4th July 2009 10.00am to 4.00pm at the Bournemouth Pavilion Ballroom, Westover Road, Bournemouth. Whilst this is being staged by the Bournemouth Lions Club, it is specifically to raise funds for The Teenage Cancer Trust, in Southern England to provide a dedicated unit for Teenage Cancer Sufferers to be treated at Southampton Hospital, There is currently no such unit in the South of England and teenagers often find themselves being treated alongside elderly adults or to the other extreme alongside toddlers in the paediatric ward, the nearest specialist unit currently being in London. Ever day in the UK 6 young people between the age of 13 and 24 will be diagnosed with cancer, which is approximately 2100 new cases a year.

For further information Tel: Shirley Tatchell 01202 718593/0845 833 2823 or log on to justgiving.com/tctsouthofenglandappeal



Boscombe Charter Lunch With "YUPA"



Who's in the the middle?



What a treat we had an excellent lunch and then a spectacular show by "YUPA" entertainment who treated us to a display of 7 different Thai dances in 7 different costumes.

They also raise funds for charity, recently they made a donation to a school in Bournemouth and also raised £2,000 for the Monks in Thailand for Children with aids and the local Temple. For more information about "YUPA" ring 01202 752920.

Lion Peter Garlick Editor